

OCT 04 1999

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1 there and we'll deal with it. That isn't good enough.

2 If the simple ma and pa mining operation is --
3 has to go by these rules, then the Federal Government surely
4 ought to be able to -- to follow the same rules.

5 In this huge report, I believe Esmeralda County
6 is mentioned six times. We're non-existent. The population
7 numbers are -- are wrong. Again, no mitigation.

8 No mention of the fact that the town water system
9 for Goldfield is pumped thirteen miles out in the flats right
10 alongside the highway into town.

11 They do make short mention of this curve out here
12 which a truck 200 feet long won't make it around, and we can go
13 on and on and on, but I'm up here in support of the people that
14 have very good issues, and thanks for Nye County to send Jamie
15 up to put in their best work.

16 Thank you very much.

17 MR. LAWSON: Thank you.

18 MR. SKIPPER: Thank you for your comment.

19 MR. LAWSON: Mr. Walker.

20 MR. WALKER: I'm less familiar -- I'm less
21 familiar with this aspect of Nye County's point of view.

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22 Again, my name is Jamie Walker, Jamieson Walker.

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23 ^{OCT 04 1999}
I'm reading this statement on behalf of Les Bradshaw. He is

24 the department manager for the Nye County Department of Natural

25 Resources and Federal Facilities.

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1 [The Nye County Nuclear Waste Repository Project
2 Office has completed a preliminary review of the Draft EIS and
3 found the document to be deficient in a number of key areas.
4 Because of these inadequacies, the Department of
5 Energy must prepare a supplemental draft of the EIS per the
6 requirements of CFR 1502.9 so that Nye County, other agencies
7 and the public can have an opportunity to review and comment on
8 how the Department addresses the deficiencies, inadequacies and
9 the comments on the Draft EIS.]

10 All too often, Nye County has submitted formal
11 comments to a federal agency only to see these comments
12 disregarded in the agency's preparation of the final NEPA
13 documentation.

1 cont'd.

14 [Given the significance of the proposed action and
15 the serious deficiencies in the Draft EIS, the Department of
16 Energy would be remiss if it did not prepare a supplemental
17 draft for public review and comment.]

2...

18 [The Draft EIS presents an assessment of human
19 health and safety that purports to meaningfully -- meaningfully
20 portray the risks associated with the repository.

21 Unfortunately, this assessment is based on an
22 approach that is fraught with uncertainty and plagued by lack
23 of data.

24 Further the results have been severely criticized
25 by expert panels assembled specifically to evaluate validity

1 and results of the models used to predict risk.

2 [Nye County by its virtue -- by virtue of its
3 location, characteristics and overwhelming federal presence,
4 has been disproportionately impacted by past, present and
5 continuing federal actions.

6 Nye County must receive just equity offsets,
7 mitigation and compensation from the United States to mitigate
8 the cumulative impacts of these past and present actions in
9 combination with the proposed repository.

10 In her 1994 transmittal of the secretary --
11 secretarial policy statement on the National Environmental
12 Policy Act, or NEPA as it's commonly called, the Secretary of
13 Energy stated, quote: "Full compliance with the letter and
14 spirit of NEPA, our national charter for protection of the
15 environment, is an essential priority for the Department of
16 Energy, consistent with our core values."

17 [The Department of Energy's approach toward the
18 evaluation of impacts in the draft Yucca Mountain EIS is
19 woefully lacking.

20 The Draft EIS ignores the impacts of many other
21 federal actions in Nye County with respect to federal land
22 management, waste disposal, environmental and water policies.

23 The result is a fragmented analysis that does not
24 meet the letter or intent of NEPA.

25 Substantive revisions of the EIS will be required

1 before the Department of Energy will have met its own stated
2 policy of full compliance with NEPA.

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3 Finally, the Department of Energy will be holding
4 public meetings at numerous locations in Nevada and the United
5 States during the next few months.

6 An additional public meeting must be held in
7 Tonopah, the county seat of Nye County. This meeting must be
8 held after the last scheduled public meeting, but before the
9 close of the comment period on the Draft EIS.

10 By that time, the citizens of Nye County and my
11 office will have had the time necessary to review and comment
12 on the Draft EIS and provide the Department with the final set
13 of oral comments.

14 Thank you.

15 MR. LAWSON: Thank you.

16 MR. SKIPPER: Thank you for your comment.

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